GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:397
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
CAMPAIGN AGAINST AYURVEDA
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the campaign going on in the Western Countries especially in the US against Ayurveda ;and

(b) if so, the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI AMBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a): Government have no authentic information which reveals any ongoing campaign in the western countries including in the U.S.A. against Ayurveda. However, certain technical barriers are being faced in the market authorization of the Ayurveda products in the EU countries. In an article dated 15th December, 2004 titled `Heavy metal contents of Ayurveda herbal products` published in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA), some of the Ayuirveda products have been singled out for presence of Lead, Mercury and Arsenic contents. Such articles may have an adverse effect in marketing Ayurveda medicines.

(b): Government have taken up the issue of market authorization of Ayurvedic products in EU countries with the European Commission. The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) has identified and decoded Ayurvedic drugs published in the article of JAMA and the products have been sent for chemical analysis, evaluation of safety profile etc. to different scientific institutions.